

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for powering up an optical network is provided. The method comprises remotely and safely increasing power to optical links in the optical network while monitoring signal 5 levels in the network to discover installation errors, incorrect equipment configuration, and faulty components. In a modification to the method, attenuations of optical attenuators and gain values of optical amplifiers are set. The methods for powering up the optical network of the 10 embodiments of the invention apply to both new optical networks and to new optical links added to pre-existing optical networks.